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Paper No.

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Patent No. 7,282,483

Issue Date: October 16, 2007

Application No. 09/898,234 : LETTER REGARDING

Filed: July 3, 2001 : MAINTENANCE FEE PAYMENT

Atty Docket No. 98,385-I

This is in regards to the first maintenance fee due in the above-identified patent.

The patent issued October 16, 2007. The window for paying the first maintenance fee without surcharge opened on October 16, 2010 and closed on April 16, 2011. The window for paying the first maintenance fee with surcharge opened on April 17, 2011 and will continue to be open until October 16, 2011.

Patentee is advised that another patentee paid the first maintenance fee in this patent. A decision dismissing their request to refund the maintenance fee has been dismissed.

However, if on request for reconsideration, a decision is made to apply the maintenance fee to the other patent then the maintenance fee will stand due in this patent. Further, if such a decision is made after October 16, 2011, this patent may stand expired for failure to pay the maintenance fee.

If patentee attempted to pay the maintenance fee but it was not accepted then patentee should respond to this letter with proof of such an attempt. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.377. Patentee is given

TWO (2) MONTHS from the mailing date of this decision to file a response. This period is not extendable under § 1.136(a).

Otherwise, patentee should submit the maintenance fee and late surcharge on or prior to October 16, 2011 (with a signed and dated certificate of mailing pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8) to avoid possible expiration of this patent. If the payment is not accepted then patentee should maintain a record of the Office's refusal to accept and record a maintenance fee. See 37 CFR 1.377.

Further correspondence with respect to this decision should be addressed as follows:

By mail:

Mail Stop Petition

Commissioner for Patents

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By fax:

(571) 273-8300

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Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3219.

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Office of Petitions